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May 14, 2018

Man Sentenced For West Covina Murder

A man was sentenced today to 26 years to life in state prison for killing a 27-year-old man whose body was found in a canyon, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Phillip Von Wade (dob 3/15/96) pleaded no contest last month to one count of first-degree murder and admitted the special allegation of personally using a deadly and dangerous weapon, an ax.

Deputy District Attorney Brandy Chase prosecuted the case.

On Sept. 5, 2016, Wade lured Rahkeem Reyes to his house and killed him with a homemade ax. The defendant had promised the victim he would make a Batman suit for a convention but never produced it, the prosecutor said.

The victim's body was found five days later in Azusa Canyon.

Case KA113465 was investigated by the West Covina Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.